



Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families

2004 Community Report



“Arizona must not only be a great state to grow old in, but a great state to grow up in.”

Governor Janet Napolitano

A Message from the Governor and Director

Dear Community Partners:

Last year, the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF) continued making great strides for the lives of Arizonans. In 2004, we managed, administered and brought into the state more than \$31.5 million in grant funds to be distributed statewide over the next several years. Of that amount, more than \$20 million was new money never before available to the State of Arizona. This year, the GOCYF awarded nearly \$17 million in grant funds to communities and programs statewide, impacting a broad range of social issues ranging from substance abuse prevention to workforce development, from juvenile delinquency prevention to prison reentry initiatives. In addition to these grant funds, GOCYF also helped leverage an additional \$1.9 million for community programs through public/private partnerships and foundation support, helping match Arizona's seniors with needed services, and benefiting young children in the areas of literacy and early education.

Other highlights of the year include:

- Implementation of a statewide scholarship program for early education professionals, which has trained more than 400 early educators with an impact on more than 6,300 children.
- Creation of a statewide Youth Development Task Force to develop a plan for improving youth workforce opportunities, positive youth development, youth leadership and education.
- Development of agency and community strategies to improve outcomes for delinquent youth involved in the child welfare system.
- Distribution of the book *Confetti: Poems for Children* to nearly 86,000 first graders across Arizona.
- Creation of a State Plan to End Homelessness which establishes a strategy to improve outreach, integrate government services, and provide better early intervention to homeless individuals and families.
- Publication of the first ever State Plan on Domestic and Sexual Violence, which recommends more than 50 strategies to prevent violence against women, support survivors, and hold perpetrators accountable.
- Establishment of a Reentry Task Force focused on improving outcomes for offenders upon release from the corrections system.
- Formation of a Foundation Roundtable to discuss policy and funding issues impacting the State and private philanthropy.
- Distribution of the CoppeRx Card which has saved Arizona's seniors more than \$8.6 million on prescription drugs, and the establishment of the BenefitsCheckUp program to help link seniors with the benefits for which they qualify.

We will continue to build upon these initiatives in 2005 and beyond. Thank you for your support in making Arizona stronger for its children, youth and families.

Mission Statement

The Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF) serves the mission of the Governor by fostering and enhancing collaborative relationships across state systems and communities in an effort to ensure the well being of Arizona's children and families.

The GOCYF seeks to develop and influence public policy in efforts focused on coordinating and creating a more comprehensive system of services, and works to secure resources that will provide sustainable and positive impacts for Arizona children, families and communities.

Governor Janet Napolitano



Lisa Glow, Director of GOCYF



Governor's Policy Adviser on Aging and the Advisory Council

In 2004, Governor Napolitano established the position of Policy Adviser on Aging to provide the Governor with timely and accurate information on aging issues, to ensure that the concerns of seniors are included in broader state initiatives, and to serve as the executive director of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The Council on Aging advises the Governor on federal and state legislation impacting older Americans, sponsors the annual Governor's Conference on Aging, and provides leadership in the areas of Alzheimer's care, social and health issues, and challenges facing older workers.

Arizona Mature Worker Initiative

Arizona is one of four states in the country working with the AARP to launch a national Mature Worker Initiative. This initiative increases opportunities for mature workers to successfully navigate the public and private workforce system. Included is a plan to provide new points of access to training at the state level that will allow mature workers to remain competitive in the job market and to provide connections to companies who value their experience. Building on the highly successful Older Worker Awareness Day held in September 2004, additional events will be held in 2005 and 2006.

Arizona Seniors



Aging 2020

In a March 2004 Executive Order, the Governor ordered the creation of an Aging 2020 plan which requires short and long-range planning for the significant changes that will occur as a result of the increase in the state's over-65 population over the next 15 years. State agencies have developed recommendations on how the state and communities can prepare for these demographic changes to improve the quality of life for Arizona's seniors and the state as a whole. Input was sought from community leaders through a series of 40 forums statewide, and partnerships are being developed with a variety of community groups such as the Area Agencies on Aging, libraries, community colleges and councils of government. Upon completion, the Aging 2020 plan will significantly shape Arizona's future policy directions in aging.



BenefitsCheckUp

In partnership with the National Council on the Aging (NCOA), Governor Napolitano launched the Benefits CheckUp program in Arizona in May 2004. This program assists persons 55 years of age and older (and the agencies that serve them) in determining whether they are eligible for an array of public and private benefits, and provides information on how to access those benefits. Foundation support has been leveraged to fund this initiative, which is currently in Maricopa and Mohave counties, with plans for statewide implementation in 2005.

Citizens' Workgroup on Long Term Care

Initiated by Governor Napolitano in March 2004, this group of more than 40 citizens and citizen organizations is charged with providing the Governor with recommendations on how to best address the increasing shortage of direct care workers, such as home health aides, personal care attendants, and certified nursing assistants.

CoppeRx Card

The Governor expressed her interest in senior issues early in her administration through her first Executive

Order in January 2003, which established the CoppeRx Card, a bulk-purchasing based discount card program for Arizona's Medicare-eligible seniors and persons with disabilities. The program has been highly successful and to date is estimated to have saved Arizonans more than \$8.6 million.

Public-Private Partnerships

Public-private partnerships and collaborations continue to be an important part of the day-to-day work of the GOCYF. In 2004, the Governor's Foundation Roundtable was established as a forum to discuss policy issues that impact the state and private philanthropy, and to foster relationships between the public and private sectors.



Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program

The Child Abuse Prevention License Plate program is a partnership between the GOCYF, the Arizona Republic Charities, the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, BHHS Legacy Foundation, Arizona Community Foundation, Valley of the Sun United Way and United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association. The goal of this program is to raise funds for primary child abuse prevention—stopping child abuse before it occurs. Of the \$25 specialty license purchase price, \$17 goes directly to primary prevention efforts. In addition, the Arizona Republic Charities and its funding partners provide a match of 50 cents on every dollar. In 2004, more than \$760,000 was distributed to 19 agencies statewide.

One Book for Every First Grader

As part of an overall literacy effort, the Governor's Book Project continued in 2004 as

nearly 86,000 Arizona first graders received a book to take home and share with their families. Once again partnering with Phelps Dodge and Southwest Gas corporations, the Governor provided each first grader with a copy of the book, *Confetti: Poems for Children* by Pat Mora. This public-private partnership helps to instill a love of reading in children, some of whom have never before owned a book of their own.

The Arizona Early Education Fund

The Arizona Early Education Fund was established at the Arizona Community Foundation with the goal of creating a \$20 million endowment to help communities statewide build the quality and capacity of early childhood education programs for children birth through age five. Grants will focus on early literacy, professional development for early education teachers, quality improvements for childcare and preschool, and child health programs. The fund represents a new revenue source with an initial goal of making grants of at least one million per year. To contribute, contact the Arizona Community Foundation at (602) 381-1400.

Stuff the Bus for School Supplies

The GOCYF joined in a collaborative effort with Fulton Homes, Alphagraphics, Clear Channel Communications, Desert Ridge Marketplace and The Salvation Army to provide children in need with backpacks and school supplies for the 2004-2005 school year. State employees voluntarily joined the Governor in her effort to provide school supplies to more than 5,000 children in 30 schools statewide.

Earned Income Tax Credit

In 2004, the GOCYF continued a statewide taskforce whose mission is to increase the number of families and individuals claiming the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This tax credit is responsible for lifting more children out of poverty than any other tax credit program. The task force is comprised of members of the business community, financial institutions, the IRS and Arizona Department of Revenue, social service agencies and state and local governments.

As a result of these collaborative efforts, in 2004 more than 370,000 families and individuals claimed the credit, infusing more than \$627 million into Arizona's economy, which was an increase of \$27 million over the previous year. With the support of utility partners Arizona Public Service (APS) and Salt River Project (SRP), the task force created a brochure and paycheck stuffer to communicate to families about the EITC.



Other GOCYF Initiatives

The State Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

In a June 2004 Executive Order, the Governor established the Governor's Interagency and Community Council on Homelessness and tasked it with the development and implementation of innovative strategies to prevent and end homelessness in Arizona. This Council and a work group of state agency personnel, local government representatives, community organizations, homeless service providers and homeless advocates developed the State Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

The State Plan establishes a strategy to improve outreach to the homeless, integrate government services to make them easier to access and deliver, provide better early intervention and risk assessment to help families before they become homeless, and improve discharge planning to prevent persons leaving the state's care from becoming homeless. The Council and work group are also developing a plan to provide more housing units for the homeless, including more availability of permanent housing with supportive services.

Victim's Rights

Governor Napolitano has long been a leader in the Victim's Rights movement and created the first ever Governor's Adviser for Victims position. The Governor's Adviser for Victims works with community groups, businesses, the Legislature and state agencies to promote victim's rights and help ensure that Arizona crime victims are treated with dignity and respect.



Arizona 2-1-1

In 2004, working with community groups and the public and private sectors, Governor Napolitano established a statewide 2-1-1 system to provide Arizonans with Internet access to social service providers, community resources, disaster relief information and volunteer opportunities. In February of 2004, the Governor established the Governor's Council on 2-1-1 and the Governor's Community Advisory Committee on 2-1-1 to assist in the planning and development of the system.

Over the past two years, the GOCYF has worked in partnership with state agencies, the Governor's Office for Homeland Security, community groups, local governments, and the United Ways to help facilitate creation of a state-of-the-art 2-1-1 system that will be a model for other states, both as a homeland security tool and a means to make social services more accessible to the public. For more information, visit www.az211.gov.

Faith-Based Initiatives

Throughout her administration, the Governor has worked with the faith community to create community initiatives and to strategically target resources. In January 2005, Governor Janet Napolitano created a new position of Policy Adviser on Faith and Community Initiatives. The Governor's Policy Adviser on Faith and Community Initiatives actively engages faith and community organizations to address the social service needs of Arizona families. The Adviser provides technical assistance and assists organizations to leverage existing resources for greater outcomes.

Division for Community & Youth Development

The Division for Community & Youth Development manages and distributes funding to Arizona communities to support National Service programs, service-learning, volunteerism and youth development. Additionally, the Division specializes in engaging and empowering Arizona's next generation of leaders and supporting youth through policy, programs, and initiatives.



"Change occurs when communities and youth help themselves."

Governor Janet Napolitano



Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism

The Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism is the policy-making body for community service and volunteer-related issues, and funds and administers the state AmeriCorps program and the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. In 2004, AmeriCorps funding supported communities through tutoring, mentoring, literacy, school readiness, developing community-based volunteer programs, public safety and forest management. 200 AmeriCorps members contributed over 130,000 hours of service, conducting service-learning and community education activities for over 5,000 children, youth and families, providing community service information and referrals to over 13,000 people, and tutoring 1,600 adults in GED or basic skills development.

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

This awards program recognizes individuals, groups and businesses that have made a significant contribution to Arizona communities through service. In 2004 sixteen awards were presented.

Arizona Statewide Youth Development Task Force

In 2004, the Governor created the Arizona Statewide Youth Development Task Force, a body working to create a comprehensive youth development plan for Arizona. Over 125 youth and adults with expertise in youth development will contribute to the plan.

State Citizen Corps Council

In 2004, the Governor created the Arizona State Citizen Corps Council which fosters the development, growth and sustainability of Citizen Corps efforts to make Arizona families and communities safer and better prepared to respond to terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

Governor's Mentoring Initiative

In 2004, the Governor created a mentoring initiative to encourage state employees to become mentors to school age youth.

2004 Grants - \$3M total

AmeriCorps State Grant— \$1.5M

Provides opportunities for AmeriCorps members to serve communities and build the capacity of organizations to meet local needs.

Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative— \$1.2M

Arizona is one of only nine states in the nation to receive this funding, which serves to effectively increase the number and array of positive development opportunities available to young people, particularly in the areas of positive use of time, positive self-expression and youth involvement.

Youth Works Arizona Grant Program— \$300,000

The Youth Works Arizona Grant Program supports youth (ages 14-21) who have dropped out of school in attaining a G.E.D. or high school diploma and prepares them for postsecondary education opportunities, advanced training or employment.

2004 Conferences and Events

Governor's Youth Summits

The Governor's Youth Commission convened three regional Youth Summits in 2003-2004 that encouraged 500 high school students throughout the state to become involved in their communities through volunteer service and civic engagement.

National & Community Service Conference

During this three-day conference, approximately 300 AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, VISTA and Governor's Youth Commission members met in Flagstaff where they participated in service projects, attended valuable workshops, and celebrated the rewards of service to the community.

Governor's Extra Learning Opportunities Summit

The Governor's Extra Learning Opportunities Summit focused on out of school time programs and policy for youth and provided an opportunity to hear and offer input on the role of ELO's as part of the state's youth development policy agenda. More than 170 people participated in the summit.

Division for Children

The Division for Children promotes and advances the strength and well-being of Arizona's children and families. The Division specializes in administering juvenile justice grants and the U.S. Department of Education's Safe and Drug Free Schools program. In 2004, Arizona received a finding of compliance with the core protections of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act allowing Arizona to receive full funding to support juvenile justice programming in Arizona communities.

Youth in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems

In 2004, the Division for Children convened stakeholders to develop strategies to improve outcomes for youth involved with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. This has resulted in better coordination of services between systems, agencies and organizations.

Drug Endangered Children

The Division for Children works in partnership with the Arizona Office of the Attorney General and others to provide services for children living in homes where methamphetamine is being manufactured. From the moment that a lab is shut down, this program coordinates health and behavioral health services for children who are exposed to toxic chemicals as well as neglect and abuse that they may experience in these environments.

Child Welfare Forum

The Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families partnered with Northern Arizona University College of Social and Behavioral Sciences for a presentation and discussion on child welfare. The forum brought more than 100 university students together to hear about the Governors reform of child protection and child welfare in Arizona and the Department of Economic Security's vision for the protection of children in Arizona.



2004 Grants — \$3.5M total

Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Grant — \$1.3M

The purpose of this federal grant program is to fund programs that prevent violence in and around schools, prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs, and involve parents and communities in the support of student academic achievement. In 2004, ten grants were awarded for programs statewide.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant: Title V, Title II and Challenge — \$1.3M

Twenty-five programs received grants in 2004 targeted at delinquency prevention and intervention, deinstitutionalization of status offenders, and increased availability of aftercare services for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG): Local Pass-Through — \$684,825

These funds were awarded to 14 Arizona communities, including 9 counties, 3 cities, and 2 tribes. Throughout Arizona, JABG funds support a variety of successful programs, including community service and restitution programming, safe schools programs, and technology enhancements for more effective information sharing among juvenile justice stakeholders.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant: State Retained — \$198,708

JABG state-retained funds were awarded to the Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections to support enhanced statewide information sharing systems and accountability-based programming options.

Division for Women

The Governor's Division for Women is committed to ensuring that all women in Arizona live productive, healthy lives, free from violence, with access to health care and an adequate means of self sufficiency. The Division administers grants, provides training and information, and guides policy on the issues of domestic violence, women's health and workforce development.



Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women
In June, the Commission published and distributed the *State Plan On Domestic And Sexual Violence: A Guide For Safety And Justice In Arizona*. The Governor's Office has begun implementing the plan with initiatives focused on statewide law enforcement training, college campus sexual assault prevention, and the impact of domestic violence on children.

State Plan on Domestic and Sexual Violence Implementation Activities Statewide Law Enforcement Training on Domestic Violence

AzPOST, DPS, the Morrison Institute and the Governor's Office have established a partnership to improve, standardize and institutionalize law enforcement training to improve response to domestic violence statewide. Training will focus on orders of protection, dual arrests/predominant aggressor, and documenting children at the scene of domestic violence arrests.

College Campus Sexual Assault Prevention

The Division is working with Arizona universities and community colleges to improve responses to sexual violence on campus by developing a campus blueprint, website, and training for campus personnel on improving prevention efforts and responding appropriately to incidents of violence.

Children and Domestic Violence

Beginning with a symposium in October, the Division is working with individual communities to enhance responses to children who have witnessed domestic violence. Strategies include community collaboration and referral to resources.

Commission On The Health Status of Women and Families In Arizona

The Commission has been charged to work collaboratively to identify strategies, develop public policies, and make legislative recommendations to improve the overall health of women. Focus areas include improving access to health care; addressing health concerns affecting women; reproductive health care and teen pregnancy; and prenatal care. In 2004 the Commission issued a report with recommendations on improving women's health outcomes across the lifespan.

2004 Grants — \$5.4M Total

STOP Violence Against Women Formula Funds — \$2.2M

The STOP grant develops and strengthens effective law enforcement, prosecution, judicial strategies, and victims' services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

Innovative Prevention Grant Program — \$710,000

This grant supports proven strategies and creative ideas for the prevention of family violence with specific focus on substance abuse issues and on children who witness domestic violence.

Children's Justice Act — \$305,000

These federal pass-through dollars promote education and training in child abuse investigations and development of family based advocacy centers.

Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Grant — \$900,000

This grant funds the education and training of key stakeholders and service professionals in border counties on the rights of battered immigrant women as identified in the Violence Against Women Act of 2000.

Grants to Encourage Arrest — \$750,000

In a partnership between the GOCYF, the City of Phoenix and Maricopa County, this grant funds an innovative pilot project, identifying first-time domestic violence offenders at high risk of re-offending and placing them on intensive probation.

Women's Workforce Development Grant — \$500,000

This grant funds community agencies that assist women with barriers to employment by enhancing employment skills and securing jobs that pay a livable wage.

2004 Conferences and Events

Ending Domestic Violence In Arizona: 2004 State Training Conference

Governor Napolitano's 2nd Annual Statewide Conference featured nationally-recognized keynote speakers in the areas of victim empowerment and working with boys to prevent domestic violence. More than 1,200 participants attended this conference, making it the largest of its kind in the State.

Children and Domestic Violence Symposium

More than 100 people from 11 counties across the state attended an October 2004 symposium to develop community-based solutions to addressing the impact of domestic violence on children.

Women's Health Week

In May, the Division hosted Women's Health Week activities in partnership with DHS where over 600 state employees received screenings and health checks and received valuable information on best practices for prevention.

Violent Offender Round Up

In partnership with law enforcement and the Attorney General's Office, more than 300 domestic violence offenders were arrested during a statewide round up in October (DV Awareness Month).

Division for Substance Abuse Policy

Under the leadership of Governor Napolitano, and in partnership with the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention, the Division for Substance Abuse Policy provides resources to support a broad array of innovative and accountable services to enhance parental involvement and improve education about the risks and health problems associated with abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Underage Drinking

The Division is developing a long-term statewide initiative to reduce underage drinking in Arizona. The multifaceted Anti-Underage Drinking Initiative will provide resources and technical assistance to tribal, rural and urban communities throughout Arizona.

Substance Abuse Resource Management System

The Governor launched a new initiative of the Arizona Drug and Gang Policy Council to develop a mechanism to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and availability of all state and federally funded substance abuse education, prevention and treatment services. In 2005 the Council will make recommendations on how to improve substance abuse services, target services in areas of greatest need, and address policy barriers to improve service delivery.

School-Based Parenting Programs

The Division supports school-based parenting programs throughout Arizona. These programs improve parenting skills and behavior, parental attitudes toward drug use by their children, family communication and conflict resolution. In 2004, an additional 28 schools and school districts joined the 270 schools participating in the first round of school based parenting programs.

Prison Initiatives

Two new initiatives are aimed at reducing the number of children and adults that become involved with the criminal justice system:

Reentry Task Force

The Reentry Task Force was established in October 2004 to develop strategies to improve outcomes for released offenders. The Task Force is comprised of members from around the state in both the public and private sectors.

Children of Incarcerated Parents

Some 40,000 children in Arizona have one or more parents in prison, and are seven times more likely to enter the justice systems than other children. To help stop this cycle of crime and incarceration, the Division is coordinating a partnership with the Arizona Department of Corrections and the Parents Commission to support children of incarcerated parents and build parenting skills for incarcerated adults who will be returning to their children. In 2004, the Governor and the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention hosted the first statewide conference on Children of Incarcerated Parents with more than 270 participants.



Fourth Annual Drug Court Conference

The conference focused on enhancing public safety through accountability, treatment and recovery. Approximately 300 people attended. The conference was hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Governor's Office, the Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention, the University of Arizona, Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center and the Arizona Association of Drug Court Professionals.

2004 Grants — \$19M total over 5 years

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant — \$11.75M/Grants distribution in 2005-2009

This State Incentive Grant will be used to build a comprehensive system targeting substance abuse prevention in communities where it will have the greatest impact.

Co-Occurring Disorder State Incentive Grant — \$3.75M/Grants distribution in 2005-2009

Over the next five years, this State Incentive Grant will develop broad partnerships to support improved delivery of services for adults and children in the justice system who have concurrent mental health and substance abuse issues.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Substance Abuse State Infrastructure Grant — \$3.75M/Funds administered by the Department of Health Services

Grant funds will be used in collaboration with Arizona's child-serving agencies to expand and sustain the activities promoting the "Arizona Vision and Principles," a statewide system framework of care philosophy, and to continue to provide flexible, community-based services for children.

School Readiness Board

Governor Napolitano's School Readiness Action Plan

Governor Napolitano's School Readiness Action Plan, published in January 2004, is a 5-year plan to shape an Arizona where all children begin 1st grade safe, healthy and ready to succeed.

In 2004, under the direction of Governor Napolitano and the School Readiness Board, many of the plan's initial goals were accomplished:



Child Care

- With \$51 million in new general fund money, the waiting list for child care subsidies for low-income working families was significantly reduced.
- Additional licensing specialists were funded to ensure that basic health and safety regulations are met by all licensed child care centers and certified child care group homes.
- The SRB Quality Rating Team began to outline the elements of a Quality Rating System for Arizona's child care centers. A Quality Rating System provides parents with a clear, easy-to-understand tool to judge the quality of the child care they choose without requiring in-depth knowledge of state licensing or accreditation standards.

Professional Development

- In 2004, a statewide scholarship program for early education professionals (SEEDs) was initiated and has provided scholarships to more than 400 early education professionals, benefiting 6,368 children.
- A subcommittee of the SRB Professional Leadership Team is working towards developing articulation agreements between community colleges and universities so that early childhood education coursework can be easily transferred from one institution to another.

Child Health

- The SRB is moving forward to find resources to phase in a Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) system for child care providers. CCHCs assist providers to develop healthy environments for children, provide training and help link families with medical homes and/or insurance.
- Screening for health problems that may hinder a child's readiness for school is a cost-effective method for identifying and referring children who may benefit from early intervention. The SRB supports AHCCCS's goal of increasing well-child visits and rolling back premiums for KidsCare families, and DHS's efforts to improve newborn hearing screening and to train physicians and childcare staff on screening tools.

2004 Grant Awards — \$902,000 total

Arizona Emergent Leaders Program — \$120,000

Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, the SRB, the Head Start Association and Southwest Human Development have partnered to begin a year-long leadership development program for early childhood professionals to build a cadre of early education leaders to lead the charge for improving professional development of early educators.

Child Care and Development Fund Grants — \$250,000

The SRB administers funds from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (through DES) to provide training and technical assistance for before-and-after school child care providers.

Scholarships for Early Education Development (SEEDs) Grants — \$250,000

In 2004, Governor's Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds were awarded to Cochise and Arizona Western Colleges to assist child care providers to increase their professional education.

Head Start Collaboration Project — \$175,000

The SRB administers a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to establish linkages among Head Start, child care, social welfare, health and state funded preschool programs.



Other grants awarded to the SRB, totaling \$107,000, focused on integration of child health systems and services, improving infant-toddler care, and the importance of prenatal oral health.

Head Start Region IX meeting

In October, 250 early childhood professionals from California, Arizona, Hawaii, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands attended the Region IX Head Start Training Conference in Phoenix. The Head Start Collaboration Office within the Governor's School Readiness Board distributed 15,000 Baby Einstein videos at the conference.